

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
February 23, 2007**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**WEST END DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS  
AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO CRACK COCAINE AND GUN CHARGES**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today that **ANTHONY LEWIS**, age 30, of 828 South 38th Street, Louisville, Kentucky, **was sentenced** in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky. **Lewis** had previously pled guilty to possessing with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of cocaine base (commonly known as “crack” cocaine), possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and being a felon in possession of two 9 mm pistols. The crack cocaine and marijuana had an estimated street value of \$5,200 and \$2,800, respectively. **Lewis** was previously convicted of Illegal Possession of Controlled Substance in the First Degree in Jefferson Circuit Court

Chief United States District Court Judge John G. Heyburn, II, sentenced **Lewis** to 15 years’ imprisonment followed by 5 years’ supervised release. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.**

**Operation Backfire**

*A typical bust by LMPD leads to federal prosecution*

The following is a typical accounting of facts involving local law enforcement, state prosecutors, and the U.S. Attorney's Office to ensure that criminals dealing in guns and drugs that may result in violence are prosecuted to the fullest extent.

On November 23, 2004, at approximately 4:00 p.m., Louisville Metro Police Department detectives observed a black male, who they knew as a drug user, on the porch of 828 South 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Louisville, Kentucky, who knocked on the door of the residence. Shortly thereafter, the door opened and the man departed. Walking on Garland Avenue, they saw the man playing with something in his hand then place the item in his jean pocket. When we was stopped, they found a piece of what was crack cocaine. The man told the detectives that he had gotten the substance from **Anthony Lewis** who paid him with crack cocaine for working at the residence, which was being renovated. He advised that he had just paid him with the crack cocaine and said that he had been getting drugs from the defendant for approximately two years. He also said **Lewis** drives the 1994 Chevrolet Impala parked in front of the residence on South 38<sup>th</sup> Street and **Lewis** and another person were listed as the registered owners.

Police checked the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administration records and learned that **Lewis'** mother owned the property at 828 South 38<sup>th</sup> Street. Pursuant to a state search warrant for 828 South 38<sup>th</sup> Street, police found marijuana, cocaine base (commonly referred to as "crack" cocaine), cash, firearms (including a loaded Ruger 9mm pistol and a loaded Leinad 9mm pistol), and bills with the name **Anthony Lewis**. The crack cocaine had an estimated street value of \$5,200.00 and the marijuana had an estimated street value of \$2,800.00.

Assistant United States Attorney Jo E. Lawless prosecuted the case. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Louisville Metro Police Department conducted the investigation.

**This is a Project Backfire prosecution. Project Backfire** is a cooperative effort by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorneys Office, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the United States Attorney's Office to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

**- END -**

DLH:JEL:070213